

The Avalanche.

O. PALMER, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.
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POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

A big fire at Grand Haven last Tuesday, caused a loss of over \$75,000. Three churches and forty-three residences were consumed. Insurance only about \$185,000.

It is estimated at the treasury department that there has been a decrease of thirteen million five hundred thousand dollars in the public debt since Sept. 1.

The new cruiser Baltimore is one of the fastest war vessels afloat. She is a triumph of American mechanical skill, and an object lesson in favor of protection and the fostering of home industries. —Blade.

A correspondent of the Live Stock Indicator, says: "I can invest \$1,000 in sheep and burn every pound of wool produced for five years and make more clear money than can be made on cattle, horses, or hogs in the same length of time."

The Grand Jury has found an indictment against J. B. Lander, the well known liquor dealer and Democratic alderman from the first ward of Detroit, for accepting a bribe for his vote as alderman. He gave bail in \$3,000.

If the emperor of China sees fit to call out his "reserves" he can raise an army of one hundred millions of men. Some of our Democratic friends are alarmed. They fear that the Chinese will come over here one of these days and take all our jobs. If nations are paid the veterans of the rebellion. —Blade.

Within thirteen months the government has purchased and retired \$199,000,000 of its bonded debt, paying \$231,000,000 in so doing. That is, it paid about \$32,000,000 premium. But the interest saved amounts to \$70,000,000; hence the government is a clear gainer to the amount of \$38,000,000. Good enough. —Blade.

The Chicago Tribune solemnly remarks that too much bad whisky will inevitably lead a man either to his grave or into the Democratic party. That's a — of an alternative, and the best argument that was ever made against whisky. In fact, we don't remember anything ever said against whisky that is quite so mean. —Dayton Journal.

The St. Louis Republic characterizes the Grand Army of the Republic as "a mere association of loafers, viewing the country's treasury with greedy eyes." Majah Jones, of Florida, seems to be smarting yet from the licking those loafers gave him back in the sixties, but just the same they will assist in giving him and his gang another one in 1892. —Minneapolis Tribune.

The Michigan weather service issued their last crop bulletin for the season on the 28th inst. Weather conditions for the past week have been unfavorable to corn and wheat, frost and lack of rain being the prime factors. Most of the corn is cut. The potato crop is better than was anticipated. With warm rains wheat will be in good condition to winter.

During the closing four months of the fiscal year which ended on June 30, the Republican administration reduced the public debt \$51,000,000. During the other eight months of that year, the Democratic administration reduced it only \$37,000,000. The singular thing about the Democratic party is that it never had any financial capacity. It is excellent at running the nation in debt, but not worth a straw at paying the latter off. —Blade.

Startling frauds have been discovered in work done by sewer contractors in Detroit. The contracts called for eight inch brick walls and investigations, in a number of sewers, shows that the walls are only from four to six inches in thickness. With "boudie" aldermen and fraudulent sewer contractors on hand the Democratic city of Detroit is in a bad way. "Turn the rascals out." —Chicagoyan Tribune.

The Harrisburg Telegram is preparing a complete history of the Johnstown disaster, which will be published shortly in an elegant volume. It is proposed to make the book a valuable souvenir of the great calamity, excellent alike in matter and illustration. The text will be from the pen of the editor, who is thoroughly acquainted with the subject and with the district, while the most eminent artists will furnish portraits and views engraved from original drawings and photographs. We advise those who desire a superb volume, worthy of a place in any library, to wait for the forthcoming work. Experienced canvassers are desired as local agents to solicit subscriptions and should write at once for terms.

Governor Foraker served exactly three years and eleven months in the Union army; Mr. Campbell nine months and eighteen days between mustering in and out, but he was absent on sick leave one month before he was mustered out. Foraker, meantime, at 10 years, enlisted as a private; and was then successively promoted to second and first sergeant, second and first lieutenant and then captain at 20. In some cases comparisons are odious.

Gov. Gordon, of Georgia, in his speech at the Chattanooga reunion pledged the "eternal fealty" of the ex-Confederates to the United States constitution. But acts speak louder than words, and Gordon's gush does not count for much in the face of the fact that the provisions of the constitution guaranteeing equal political rights to all men, white or black, are nullified in the ex-Confederate commonwealths. —Blade.

More money has been spent by northern men for collegiate education for negroes in Atlanta than any six Southern States have given to collegiate education to white boys. The Northern Methodist Church alone is spending more money in the south for higher education than all the Southern States combined give to their colleges. These figures are not only startling — they are significant. —Atlanta Tribune.

Congressman W. L. Scott of Pennsylvania is a labor squeezer of the highest known horse power. He refuses to pay his miners living wages — refuses to give them as much as the poorest paid workmen in other mines are receiving. And this same Scott is one of the foremost leaders of the Democratic party, a shouter for "reform," and a hypocritical sniveler in campaign times over the poor laboring man. —Det. Tribune.

No, RODERICK, a protective tariff is not warranted to grow a heavy machine over a barren upper lip, neither is it guaranteed to prevent chicken pox, measles, a drouth, or destroy insects in wheat, potato, bugs, bacteria or maywumps. There are many ills to which flesh is heir that cannot be cured by a protective tariff. But it is a good tonic for American industries and they are going to keep right on taking it. When American industries are healthy American labor is healthy, too. —Det. Tribune.

The New York Press, whose editor is superintendent of the census, on a careful estimate of the population for 1890 finds that the northern states are increasing far more rapidly than during the previous two decades, while the south is growing more slowly, and that despite the facts that there is less foreign immigration into the north, such being the case the prospect of the "Solid South" ever again being able to dominate the country seems very small, and is destined to grow beautifully less as the world ages. —Bay City Times.

The Bay city Tribune says: "Awful justice was meted out to a negro laborer by a Kentucky mob Monday night. The black brute had assaulted a young white girl, and the incensed neighbors of her father, capturing her assailant tied him to a post, saturated him with kerosene, surrounded him with fuel, applied the torch, and inflicted that most horrible punishment, death at the stake. The crime merited capital punishment, no doubt, but the sickening methods employed by the mob are disgraceful to this century and civilization. Savage ingenuity could conceive of no more devilish design of death and barbarous hands could execute no more execrable conception. Mob law may be at times justifiable, but not when it resorts to such hellish methods in its consummation. No false sentiment, no expense should be permitted to interfere with the apprehension and punishment of the fiends who committed this great crime against the age and humanity. They should be punished to the full extent of the law, that is, if there is any law in the South to punish white people for offenses in which negroes are the sufferers. If there is, we have never heard of any, or ever known of there being put in force. The campaign of education cannot commence any too soon in the south."

The resignation of Mr. Tanner has not been forced or influenced by Democratic ridicule and abuse; nor is Mr. Tanner in any sense a "martyr." He could not discharge his difficult duties satisfactorily, and the change is simply a matter of business, as would be the retirement of an inaccurate book-keeper in a mercantile house. Nor does it mean any change in the well-known policy of the administration to do full justice to every veteran, and to execute the pension laws in a spirit of broad and enlightened humanity toward deserving claimants. The administration cannot afford to relax proper discipline among its subordinates, nor allow unbusinesslike methods to prevail in an important bureau. Personally there is much to admire in Mr. Tanner; but his case comes under a homely old proverb current in some parts of Ohio, which declares that one "is a very good man but he can't keep a hotel." Mr. Tanner is an excellent gentleman, but he lacks the business qualifications necessary to success in a responsible executive office. —Blade.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27, '89. The President and Mrs. Harrison returned to Washington this afternoon. This time they have come to stay and the White House again becomes the center of public interest. The real work of the administration will now begin in earnest. To-morrow a meeting of the cabinet will be held to discuss a number of important matters, not the least of which will be who is to succeed Corporal Tanner as Commissioner of Pensions.

The President already has his message to Congress sketched in outline. The details will, of course, require many consultations with the members of his cabinet and the party leaders.

Representative Ben. Butterworth, the popular son of Ohio, who has just returned from a trip to Europe, was given a welcome home to-night that must have warmed his big heart to its innermost parts. At least three thousand people took part in the reception which was held in the old skating rink. Hon. S. S. Shellabarger delivered the address of welcome and a number of other gentlemen, including Senator Sherman, made short speeches. The reply of Mr. Butterworth was a gem in its way, and could have been made by few men so well. Mr. Butterworth will take the stump in Ohio for Governor Foraker in a few days. The reception was held under the auspices of the Ohio Republican Association of this city.

Senator Sherman is urging the appointment of ex-representative Brown, of Ohio, as Commissioner of Pensions. He told Secretary Noble that the resignation of Mr. Tanner, owing to the peculiar and somewhat mysterious circumstances attending it, was doing the party much harm in Ohio, and that he thought the appointment of Mr. Brown would be the best means of restoring good feeling among Ohio veterans.

Almost a quorum of the Senate has been in Washington during this week. The majority of the senators were only here for a day or two, as they returned from their summer vacations, and had little to say on political matters. At least a dozen of the shrewdest newspaper men in town successfully tackled Senator Quay for an interview. The junior Senator from the Keystone State knocked them out in one, two, three order without the slightest trouble. There are few men in public life harder to interview than Mr. Quay, and yet no man is easier to approach.

The return to this city of Commissioner Roosevelt, of the Civil Service Commission has started anew the fight in the present civil service law. Mr. Roosevelt is being more or less harshly criticised by republicans who believe the present civil service law to be a colossal humbug, and their number is legion, for having said in a newspaper interview that it would be party treachery for a republican congressman to attack on the floor of the House the present civil service law. Said a republican representative "Mr. Roosevelt makes the mistake of thinking that those who oppose the present law are opposed to reform in the civil service. The great majority of those who are agitating the repeal of the present law are doing it because they have become satisfied that no reform has been or is likely to be effected by it. These men are in line with the best sentiment of the republican party in desiring a true reform in our civil service but they can see no good in continuing the present cumbersome and expensive law. Progress has ever been synonymous with the methods of the republican party, and in my opinion progress towards a better civil service demands the repeal of the present law. I was a working republican before Mr. Roosevelt ever cast a vote, and think the republicans in Congress can decide this question without any advice from either of the gentlemen who are drawing \$7,000 a year as Commissioners under this law."

Secretary Windom has asked for and received the resignation of J. K. Kimball, Director of the Mint, and Col. Switzer, Commissioner of Statistics. Mr. E. O. Leech, who has been in the office for a number of years, and who is now acting Director of the mint, will assume that office October 15, when Mr. Kimball's resignation takes effect. The presence in Washington of Mr. Joseph Nismo, whom Mr. Switzer succeeded early in the Cleveland administration, makes it generally believed that he is to take his old place.

Every Congressman who favors some other city as the place for holding the American Exposition in 1892 has Washington for a second choice, which makes it certain that Washington will be selected.

The demise of Samuel S. Cox marks the fifth vacancy which has been made by death in the ranks of the members of the popular branch of the fifty-first congress, those who had previously died being Burns, of Missouri; Gay, of Louisiana; Townsend, of Illinois; and Laird, of Nebraska. None of these deaths, however, have made, or will make, any change in the political complexion of that body. Successors to the first three named have been chosen, and they are of the same party as of those whom they replace. A republican will be chosen in Laird's district and a democrat in place of Mr. Cox. —Bay City Times.

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